



Student Exchange Committee Report — Five Local Students Chosen

Five students have been chosen by the Student Exchange Committee to participate in the Alliance's 2004 trip to England and France. Each of the following students will receive a \$500 scholarship from the Bedford International Alliance, Inc. Congratulations, Students!

Brittany Bolling, a 10th grade student at Staunton River High School

Erin Gilhuly, a 10th grade student at Liberty High School

Christopher Hartford, an 11th grade student at Liberty High School

Joseph E. Philbrick, an 11th grade student at Liberty High School

Isaac Podyma, a 10th grade student at Staunton River High School

CALENDAR OF EVENTS AND MEETINGS

Wednesday, September 24

7:00 p.m. – Board of
Directors Meeting

Wednesday, November 5

7:00 p.m. – Board of
Directors Meeting

Friday, November 21

“A Taste of France”
Member Event

7:00 - 10:00 p.m.
at the home of
Skip and Kathy Tharp
725 Longwood Avenue
Bedford

Wednesday, January 15, 2004

Annual Meeting of
Members

Time & Location to be
determined

– Directors will be elected
by the membership at this
meeting.

– Officers will be elected
by the new Board of
Directors at the Board of
Directors Meeting
following the close of the
Annual Meeting of
Members.

**Visit our website to see
the latest updates:**

www.ci.bedford.va.us/alliance

Nominating Committee Report —

Slate of Officers for 2004

1 Year Directors – Term Expires 12/31/04

Will Berry

Jack Gross

Connie Messier

Tom Messier

Beverly Padgett

Mike Shelton

Kathy Tharp

Skip Tharp

Pride Wingfield

2 Year Directors – Term Expires 12/31/05

Bob Bashore

Lucille Boggess

Gloria Gross

Joe Humphrey

Nancy Johnson

Craig Meadows

Julie Mayhew

Charlene McFall

Helen Pope

3 Year Directors – Term Expires 12/31/06

Meg Ballard

Pearl Broesamle

Lee Ann Carr

Nanci Drake

Patty Mason Goggin

Milton Graham

Nita Holt

Teresa Stanley

Al Vincent

2004 OFFICERS

Chairman of the Board Tom Messier
Vice-Chairman of the Board Bob Bashore
President Mike Shelton
First Vice-President – USS Normandy Will Berry
Second Vice-President – France Jack Gross
Third Vice-President – England Pearl Broesamle
First Secretary – Recording Gloria Gross
Second Secretary – Communications Milton Graham
Treasurer Connie Messier

You're invited...



BEDFORD INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE, INC.
P.O. Box 951
Bedford, Virginia 24523

MEMBERS OF THE
BEDFORD INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE
ARE INVITED TO

"A TASTE OF FRANCE"
FEATURING SELECTED WINES
FROM THE
VINEYARDS OF FRANCE

Light hors d'oeuvres will be served

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2003
7:00pm to 10:00pm

AT THE HOME OF MR. AND MRS. SKIP THARP
725 LONGWOOD AVENUE
BEDFORD, VIRGINIA

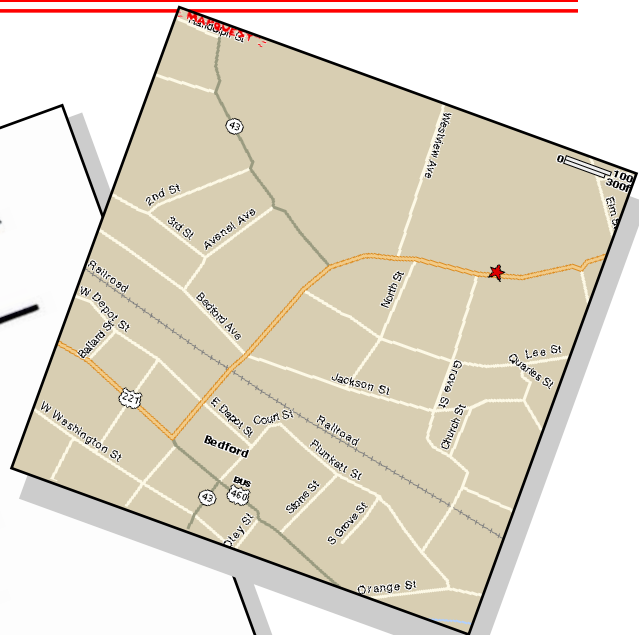
(If you need directions, contact Kathy or Skip at 586-2385)

This membership event is graciously sponsored by the
Board of Directors of the Bedford International Alliance, Inc.
And
Mr. and Mrs. Skip Tharp

PLEASE R.S.V.P. YOUR ATTENDANCE TO:
Connie Messier at 540-586-3059
No later than Monday, November 17, 2003

A Free Will offering will be collected to defray scholarship costs for the
June 2004 Student Exchange Program

www.ci.bedford.va.us/alliance



The Tharp's Home

Our Trip to Ivybridge

By Meg and Dave Ballard



Dave and I arrived in England on Saturday, October 18. The next day we took an eight-hour bus ride to Ivybridge. We stayed at the The Sportsman Inn, which houses the original pub that was there during World War II. We met with Brian Scown, Councilor and former Mayor. After dinner, Brian took us to his house, and we discussed next years visit.



The Sportsman Inn

Sportsman Inn. Brian also arranged for us to have lunch with Tony Rae, former councilor.

During the afternoon we met

with Mayor Beeson. We discussed possible plans for the day we arrive in Ivybridge. During the morning our group will lay wreaths at both Slapton Sands and Ivybridge. The order of these ceremonies have not been decided. Brian believes the British Legion would also to participate by also laying wreaths at both memorials.

There will be a reception either at lunch or dinner. At the reception, there is to be friendship / twinning discussion.

We were not able to meet with the whole Council (15 in all), but Mayor Beeson was very receptive to working on this event.

After the meeting with the Mayor, we wandered

around and tried to find some information on Ivybridge. However, being so small, we found no information on the town in print.

That night we had drinks with Jackie, Terry and Brian. Bill, the owner of the Sportsman Inn, said he would work with our Travel Committee to arrange accommodations in the Ivybridge area.

On Wednesday evening, the mayor called and told us that she had viewed the video we took her (on Bedford, VA) and found it to be very interesting and informative. She is passing the

video on to the other councilors and is passing along information on our visit through their newsletter. She is also asking people to come forward and help in the planning.



Dave and Meg met with Vera Luckham in Ivybridge.



Bill, the owner of the Sportsman Inn, showed off his vintage bar.

In 1944 Ivybridge had only about 2,000 people and now has about 15,000 people. Very few people who were there in 1944 are still in Ivybridge today.

Those we met are glad to see our group visiting their small community in 2004.



Jackie and Terry Evans, on the left, and Brian Scown

Brian arranged for us to meet with Jackie and Terry Evans, two of Ivybridge's citizens, the next morning. They, in turn, introduced us to two men who remembered the training of our troops. They were Colin and Noel Blacker, aged 8 and 13 respectively in 1944. The brothers will try to get more of the citizens who lived in Ivybridge during the training period together for us to meet and talk with during our visit next year.

We next visited Vera Luckham, the 96-year-old bartender at the



Noel, left, and Colin Blacker



2004 Membership Renewal

It's now time to renew your membership in the Bedford International Alliance. Please make your check to payable to the "Bedford International Alliance" and mail it to the Treasurer before the end of 2003. You must have your dues payment up-to-date in order to participate in the activities of the Alliance.

NAME _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

HOME PHONE # _____ WORK PHONE # _____ CELL PHONE # _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS(ES) _____

Mail to: Connie Messier, Treasurer, 1527 Newton Circle, Bedford, VA 24523

Bedford International Alliance, Inc.
P.O. Box 951
Bedford, Virginia 24523